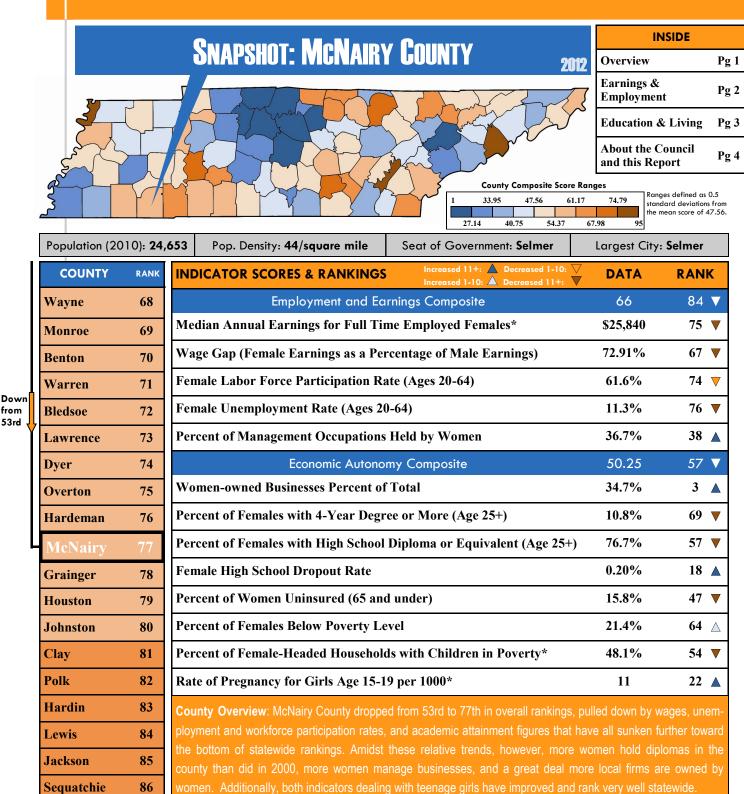
from

53rd

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties



Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

1

<sup>\*</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

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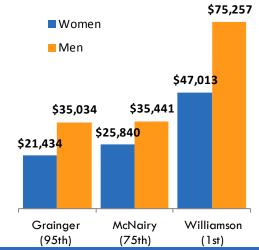
<sup>‡</sup> Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

# The Status of Women in: McNairy County

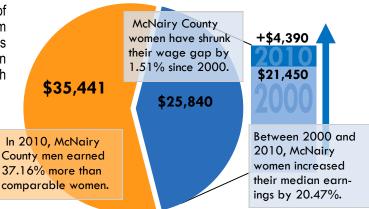
## **▼** Earnings

cNairy County women have experienced an anemic increase of \$4,390 in median income since 2000. When compared to the faster growth of many other counties, women in McNairy dropped from 35th to 75th between 2000 and 2010. Though this increased was six percent slower than the inflation rate, it was still stronger than male wage gains, which grew just 18 percent during that period.

### **Median Earnings: Counties Compared**

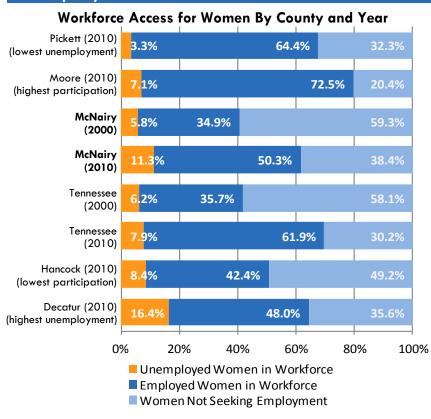


#### Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



**Largely** because men in McNairy County lagged behind many of their peers in income gains, women in the county shortened the wage gap between genders by 1.51 percent. Even after this gain, however, women continue to earn only 72.91 percent of what their male counterparts receive, and McNairy County dropped 17 spots to 67th in this measure. In addition to causing a drop in relative rank, this figure also falls short of the state rate of 77 percent, and correlates to an annual disparity of \$9,601 between genders.

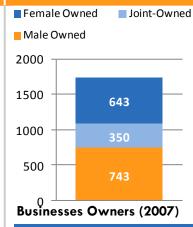
## Employment



Women in McNairy County participate in the workforce at a rate of 61.6 percent, dropping to 74th in 2010 from 64th in 2000. While participation has grown by nearly two-thirds since 2000, women in the county participate at a much lower rate than women statewide (69.8 percent), and lag behind local men in this category by 13.5 percent. Women with children under six are also more likely to work, at a rate of 60.6 percent.

Local job creation has not kept pace with the rate at which women in McNairy County have entered the labor pool, resulting in a dramatic increase in female unemployment. In 2010, 11.3 percent of women in the county were unemployed—3.4 percent higher than the statewide rate—and McNairy dropped in this indicator as well, from 38th statewide to 76th. The subgroup of women with young children less likely to be unemployed, at a rate of 8.1 percent, but men were further disadvantaged, with 13.6 percent searching for work.

# The Status of Women in: McNairy County



Iocal women have made strong gains in managerial presence since 2000. Countywide, 12.8 percent more managers are now female, rising dramatically to 38th from 75th, and outperforming state estimates by 0.7 percent.

As of 2007, women owned a significantly larger share of local businesses. In fact, this indicator more than doubled to 34.7 percent and rocketed from 81st to 3rd in the state.

When considering joint-owned businesses as well, women now have at least partial influence in 57.2 percent of local firms and employ a third of McNairy County's workforce.

#### **Women At Work**

#### **Business Management**

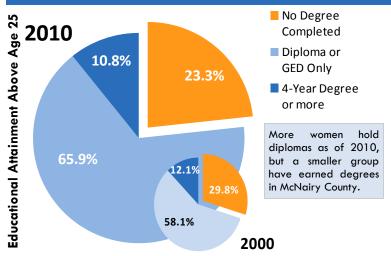
The incidence of female managers in McNairy County grew from 23.9% to 36.7% between 2000 and 2010.

#### **Business Ownership**

The percentage of women business owners in the county more than doubled, from 14.5% to 34.7% between 2000 and 2007.



#### Education



**McNairy** County women have sunken further in two of three academic rankings since 2000, despite modest gains.

The proportion of women holding four year degrees, for example, has decreased by 1.3 percent, and dropped from 28th to 69th in this category.

The percentage of women holding diplomas did increased in the county by 6.5 percent, but this, too, trailed behind several counties and dropped 13 spots to 57th.

McNairy's teenage girls dropped out at a rate of 0.20 percent in the 2011-2012 school year, ranking 18th in the state.

## **♦** Living

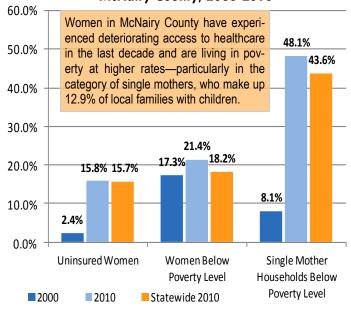
**Since** 2000, women in McNairy County have seen a dramatic decrease in health care access as well as an increase in poverty.

Ranked fifth highest for women insured in 2000, McNairy has seen the number of uninsured balloon to include 15.8 percent of all women in the county, and is now ranked 47th. Essentially matching the state figure, as of 2010, this figure was more than 6.5 times the rate in 2000.

Following an increase of 4.1 percent over the 2000 rate, over one in five women in McNairy County live in poverty in 2010. By this measure, McNairy improved three ranks to 64th, but was 3.2 percent worse off than the statewide rate.

Single mothers in McNairy fared far worse than women overall, with 48.1 percent living poverty in 2010. Ranked 54th in the state (down from 30th), these women are nearly six times as likely to live in poverty as they were in 2000, and are more than twice as likely as the average women in Tennessee or McNairy to do so.

#### Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: McNairy County, 2000-2010



## About the Council and this Report

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Research & Authorship by: William Arth, Senior Research Manager & Julia Reynolds-Thompson, Fmr Research Analyst

Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES  Employment and Earnings	
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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